



PLACER COUNTY
IHSS Advisory Committee
11533 "C" Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 886-3680

Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2006

Attendance

Committee Members Present: Ruth Lindsley, Katie Snoberger, Margaret Maldaner, Michael Fletcher and Mary DeGraaf.

Committee Members Absent: Deborah Dahl

County Staff Present: Eldon Luce, Cate Lynds, Georgia Emslie and Shirlee Herrington.

Public: Diane Lester, Eula Marshall, Karen Boal and Ann Sutherland.

Chairperson Margaret Maldaner called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call And Introductions: Roll was taken and a quorum was established.

Excused Absences: **Action:** A ***Motion*** was made by Michael Fletcher and seconded by Ruth Lindsley to excuse Deborah Dahl's absence. The ***Motion*** carried.

Unexcused Absences: None.

Member Reports/Announcements/Questions: Eldon informed the Committee of a conversation he had with Bernie Finneran with the State Department of Health Services (DHS). Mr. Finneran is very involved with IHSS and would like to attend a future Committee meeting. Mr. Finneran would also like to meet with Eldon and representatives of the Committee. The decision was made for Michael and Margaret to first meet with Eldon and Mr. Finneran then invite Mr. Finneran to attend the March Advisory Committee meeting.

Eldon advised members that Ann Sutherland with the United Domestic Workers of America might join today's meeting.

Eldon reported that Calaveras County and El Dorado County Advisory Committees suggest having a joint meeting in Placer County on February 15 from 10:00 – 2:00. Committee members agreed and decided to reschedule the regular meeting from Thursday, February 16 to Wednesday, February 15.

Margaret reported that some IHSS consumers are having difficulty getting their prescriptions filled because they haven't received their MediCare Part D prescription cards. Eldon reported that pharmacies now have instructions for verifying and filling prescriptions. Part D participants can simply take the letter identifying the plan they're enrolled in to the pharmacy. Margaret asked if Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) is the only MediCare Part D advocate. No one is aware of another Part D advocate.

Public Comment: Ann Sutherland, United Domestic Workers of America (UDWA), reported that the union is under new management. UDWA represents ten counties in California. Ann provided members with her business card and shared contact information for the person overseeing the ten counties, Charles Lester at clester@udwa.org. UDWA does not currently have a local representative (union steward) in the Placer County area. Ann invited interested members to volunteer or invite others who may have an interest in this area.

Approve 12/15/05 Meeting Summary: **Action:** A ***Motion*** was made by Michael Fletcher and seconded by Ruth Lindsley to approve the meeting summary as written. The ***Motion*** carried.

PA/Advisory Committee Newsletter: The selected logo has been given to a graphics designer and is coming along quite nicely. Eldon expects it will be completed within a month. The next edition will be issued in March 2006 and staff is open for article ideas. Margaret offered to write an article about "The First Day on the Job" from a provider prospective.

Report: California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA): Michael Fletcher reported that CICA is planning its 2006 Spring Conference. Registration packets have been mailed and extras are available today. Eldon encouraged all members to attend and requested that registration forms be given to Shirlee today. Members were reminded that cancellation must be made by February 28. Michael added that the dinner planned for Monday evening would feature "Hot

Topic” tables, meaning that each table will feature a specific topic for dinner conversation. Members are invited to submit topic ideas.

The CICA newsletter will be out later this month and is available on the CAPA website at www.capaihss.org. Click on **Advisory Committees**, then click on **California I.H.S.S Consumer Alliance**, and then click on **Newsletter**. Ironically, CICA is running a logo contest for their newsletter this month.

Note: CICA is developing their own website. Michael will keep us posted on its progress.

CICA has developed a “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ) sheet for distribution by the end of this week.

CICA is expecting to file 501(c)(3) Non-Profit paperwork within two weeks, which should establish their non-profit status within three to four months. CICA is soliciting assistance from someone with 501(c)(3) bookkeeping experience.

CICA is accepting nominations/volunteers for executive secretary.

Finally, during the last CICA meeting, one county shared that they held a strategic/budget retreat for their Advisory Committee members and found it very useful. Yolo County created a training video on how to treat the acutely disabled and it should be available for purchase soon. Yolo County is also creating their own Advisory Committee website.

Note: Placer County IHSS Advisory Committee currently has its own website via www.placer.ca.gov but it needs to be updated. Eldon will follow-up.

PA Manager Report

a. Quality Assurance/Program Integrity Initiative: The Quality Assurance (QA) program is moving along nicely. QA staff has issued its first quarterly report. There has been good progress made for the whole department (communication; accuracy; efficiency; thoroughness).

Cate and Eldon will be attending a second Social Worker training next month that is expected to focus on the “Time for Task” piece.

b. Provider Benefits: There are currently 35 providers on the waiting list for provider health benefits. The average wait time is approximately two months.

c. Provider Recruitment: Provider Orientation is offered every week for all new providers (Registry and Non-Registry). Interestingly, many providers, who were not initially interested in joining the registry, are joining after attending the orientation.

d. AC Member Recruitment: Three applicants are expected to be appointed to this Committee by the Board of Supervisors on February 7. That will leave two vacancies for IHSS Recipients (current or former; public or private).

e. Registry Report: Members reviewed the December registry report.

Eldon distributed a handout "Caregiver Evaluation Results". The Public Authority recently polled recipients regarding the care they receive from their provider, the value of In-Home Supportive Services and the quality of the registry staff. The results are very positive.

f. Governor's Budget Proposal: Eldon distributed a handout "Keeslar & Associates, Government Relations Memo" and highlighted the following aspects of Governor Schwarzenegger's Budget Proposal:

- ◆ No IHSS Cuts (first time in three years)
- ◆ State participation in IHSS salary increases to \$10.50 per hour.
- ◆ QA to be fully funded (Governor expects QA efforts to result in savings)
- ◆ Public Authorities to be fully funded
- ◆ Advisory Committees to be fully funded (\$52,974.00 per year)
- ◆ New Initiatives
 - Funding to implement the Olmstead decision
 - Promoting other options versus institutionalization
- ◆ No cost of living increase for SSI

g. Provider Training: Eldon and Debbie Faia met with Midge Galizo of Professional Education Services and they are putting together a training schedule for the year. Will keep members informed on progress.

Abuse Training was recently held in both Roseville and Auburn. The newsletter was used as advertising tool but didn't yield results. Future training will be

offered by individual invitations. Also, Public Authority is thinking about things that might encourage providers to attend (refreshments; door prizes; etc.) Members are invited to give their ideas.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Date:	February 15, 2006 (Wednesday)
Time:	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Location:	ASOC Administration, 11533 C Avenue, Auburn.